

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE
PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,
AND THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received from the 7th to the 14th of April, 1869.

The *Oudh Ukhbar*, of the 30th of March, notices that the Maharajah of Puttiala has selected from his dependents throughout his territory all the weak and infirm, and has had them lodged in some buildings, where they will be fed and their ailments looked to at the Rajah's expense, with orders that they shall not be molested.

Under the heading "Oppression," it is remarked that merchants, both Hindoostanee and Cabullee, who go towards Bokhara and Budukhshan, are taxed by the Russians to the amount of 25 per cent., which distresses them very much. The writer thinks that this is calculated to interfere with trade in that quarter.

Referring to a number of marriages having taken place at Poona during the *Hoolie* holidays (some 700 having taken place), the writer considers that the people there have too much work in the Courts, and have no time for anything else, which is accounted for by the large number of marriages during the holidays.

"It is said that the Maharajah of Ulwur has confiscated the *jagheer* (estate) of the Thakoqr Bharum Rana, which

amounts to some twenty-five thousand rupees per annum. The Thakoor has applied to the Supreme Government, and the Governor-General has ordered the Agent for Rajpootana to cause the estates to be given back, and a new treaty to be made between the Rajah and Thakoor."

This paper refers to the fancy taken by the Ameer of Cabul to the dress of the British troops, and his orders to a tailor concerning it; &c. The writer says, "Let us see what other rules of the British Government will please him."

Under the heading "Slave Selling," it is said that twelve girls were brought into Saharunpoor and sold. The writer continues:—"When the news of this reached the Magistrate's ears, he ordered the girls to be summoned, and sent to the Magistrate of Chunnia, who made them over to *mushtaris* (keepers), with orders that Rs. 2 per head should be given for each child's keep. The orders of Government in these matters are no secret; the Abyssinian war was caused entirely by this; and in order that the evil practice might be stopped in that country, ten krores of rupees were expended. Still, in the very rule of the Government, such things happen, and nothing is done to prevent them. The offending people may be punished, but still they will not give up this evil custom. In the present instance, those who sold the children are being searched for, but have not yet been found."

At Goorgaon a Hindoo is said to have thrown the body of his child, who had died of small-pox, into a well, in the belief that if he did so the disease would not revisit his house. The writer considers that the public cannot approve of this, as the well water is not drinkable by any caste or creed; and the Municipal Commissioners ought therefore to make some arrangements about it, so that in future no one else should be allowed to repeat the offence. "At the same time," he adds, "if this rule must be observed in their creed, let them have distinct wells for the purpose."

The *Jukwatore*, of the 4th of April, does not contain anything of importance.

The *Muir Gazette*, of the 4th of April, after extracts from English papers, refers to the rejoicings of the Mahomedans over the five Europeans at Madras who are said to have been converted to the Mahomedan creed. The paragraph is headed "In the Light there is Darkness."

The remark of the Ameer of Cabul that he had not seen a handsome man in British territory is noticed. The *Muir Gazette* adds that the Punjab is notorious for beauty, but that it is concealed, &c. ; "besides, who can see it at an easy and careless glance. We are quite sure that if the Ameer Sahib ever goes to England, he will quite forget Affghanistan."

The *Gwalior Gazette* of the 28th of March, the *Mujma-ool Bharain* of the 1st of April, the *Rahnoomai Punjab* of the 2nd of April, and the *Unjumun Hind* of the 3rd, do not require special notice.

The *Malwa Ukhbar*, of the 31st of March, after much that is taken from other papers, under the heading "Indore," mentions the prevalence of cholera at that place. It is said that "on the 23rd of March a *poojah* (offering) was made by the Maharajah: a day preceding the day appointed the market was closed, and in the city strict orders were passed that no smoke,* or the sound of the grindstone should be heard; nor were even *bunneeahs* to hold the scales in their hands: in fact that no work should be done, or business transacted. All the city people, both men and women, were ordered to proceed by one given road outside the city, and cook their food in gardens, or the open plain. The city to be completely cleared, and all to remain out of it for one night, returning the next day by another road. All this was done by order of the Maharajah, and on the 29th of March, all persons were ordered, on pain of five rupees penalty, to fill five vessels of water, and place them at the doors of their houses."

* Sic.

The *Karnama Hind*, of the 5th of April, mentions, under the heading "Lucknow," that the price of grain has risen: why it is not known. The writer adds, "It is not clear if when the price is high in the wheat season, what rate will it sell out of season? The Government ought to look to this as a special case, and perhaps the evil may be averted."

Under the heading "Hyderabad, Deccan," a report is mentioned to the effect that, in accordance with Government orders, the Resident will enquire into the case of the *hakeems* (native doctors) who were in attendance on the late Nizam. The persons named as those who were in attendance are "Hakeem Nadir Ali and others; and with the view of allaying suspicion this enquiry will be made. It is further said that after the period of mourning is past some changes in the Civil Departments will be made." The writer continues:—"The Resident Sahib has not interfered, but the officers of the Arab army are, more than others, confused at all his acts. We are sure that if they will change their habits and abstain from disturbances, nothing will be done, and all former faults will be forgotten."

The *Sholatore*, of the 6th of April, commences a history of Ameer Dost Mahomed of Cabul.

The order for the Council of the Governor-General to assemble at Umballa is noticed; also the Secretary of State's order for urgent news from India to be sent by telegraph: both without comment. The new loan is also alluded to.

The *Ukmil-ool Ukhbar*, of the 7th of April, mentions that "the Deputy Mahomed Sufdhur Hossein Khan, manager of the Patondie estate, having saved Rs. 20,000 from the State, sent it in to the Commissioner of Delhi, who has placed it in the bank. By this excellent management, not only have the debts of the estate been paid, but this considerable sum has been saved, and placed in safe custody."

"It is said that all the money Moonshee Ummoo Jan possessed he has sent to Mecca, to be distributed in charity. Some Rs. 40,000 worth of notes have been despatched; and it is the wish of the Moonshee that this sum should be invested in the purchase of two buildings at Mecca, and two at Medina, for the purpose of forming resting-places for pilgrims at these places. Two of these are to be placed at the disposal of the poor and needy, free of all expense to them; while the rent of the other two will go towards the repairs of the houses." It is added that "the Nawab Sahib has done well for the future."

The *Sadik-oal Ukhbar*, of the 3rd of April, does not call for special notice.

The *Rohilkhund Ukhbar*, of the 3rd of April, is principally taken up with the doings of Ameer Shere Ali Khan.

It is noticed that the Government has been devoting attention to the art of medicine. "In December the Asiatic Society requested the Government to allow the introduction of medical examinations in the university; but that the Government remarks with much pain, that, although the Society's request is very proper, the time has not yet arrived for it to be carried out in Hindoostan: besides which there are no books in the Oordoo language ready for the purpose, but that translations of certain works for the purpose have been ordered for the Society."

Under the heading "Khyber" the following appears:—"A rebel brother of the Ameer of Cabul has arrived in the Khyber, and is inciting the Khyberrees to attack the Ameer on his return to Cabul."

The *Nusseem Jounpoor*, of the 6th of April, after much reprint, mentions that the "Maharajah of Ejannuggur had proceeded with his two sons and many followers to Madras;" &c. &c. The Maharajah was, it is said, much pleased with the arrangements of the ship which conveyed the party, and gave the sailors Rs. 1,000 between them.

The *Zea-ool Ukhbar*, of the 1st of April, after extracts from other papers, publishes the following, under the heading "The English Gentlemen and Hindoostan." "The *Pioneer*, in his paper of the 22nd of March, has a good and jocular article, which, if looked into, shows that the editor is correct; and as it is not without its wit, we have translated it. The Sahib says that all we do in Hindoostan is a mistake; the firmness of Hindoostan from other countries in the rule of Affghanistan, or the victories over, and possession of, other independent countries, all is a false error. Our internal state, our taxes, our income, all our revenue arrangements, are a mistake. Our great Governors-General, Lords Dalhousie, Canning, Sir J. Lawrence, and others in perspective, all is folly. Everything we possess, or can attain, all is false; the conquest of Hindoostan is false; our coming to the country, then taking leave and going, all, all, is false; food, railways, dress, &c., all is bad;" &c. &c. The writer goes on with the translation of the article alluded to, which concludes with the acknowledgment that "the only good thing we have in India is our pay, and for it we have accepted all that is bad;" &c.

The editor of the *Zea-ool Ukhbar* considers "this all right and proper; but that on the real news, the similarity is illustrative of the old saying 'to lend one's ears to one's posteriors'—a sincere speech. We do not know what injury the writer has suffered that he so complains; but it is true that there is nothing in the world without its profits and losses; and why is the worst part brought to light, and the best lost sight of."

The *Oudh Ukhbar*, of the 6th of April, under the heading "Hyderabad, Deccan," says that "the *Naiyar Akbar* gives a strange piece of news, to the effect that in the place of the Nizam of the Deccan who recently died, his brother Roshunood-Dowlah succeeds to the throne. And as all the papers, both English and vernacular, have already noticed that the infant son has been installed, it is certainly very strange how this paper has got hold of this rumour without foundation. This is not the only strange rumour which comes from Hyderabad:

another paper, the *Mahmood*, of Madras, states that Sir Salar Jung has been murdered; and this, too, is without foundation."

Under the heading "Cabul News," it is said that news has arrived to the effect that a Hindoo sirdar named Nanuk, in Turkistan, has in his possession four lakhs of gold mohurs, two thousand troops, and six guns, belonging to the late Ameer Ufzul Khan.

The editor, referring to the reception of the Ameer of Cabul at Umballa, says that "since the British have ruled in Hindoostan no other Chief has received such honours. The grand receptions from Peshawur to Umballa could not have been surpassed: perhaps on the occasion of the visit of King Humayoon of Delhi, when he was defeated by Shere Shah and Salim Shah, and went to Persia, Shah Abbas, King of Persia, acted so. Enough; if the Ameer Sahib is gratified with the treatment he has received from the English, he has had cause to be so. Moreover, the people of Hindoostan, seeing this generosity on the part of Government, are loud in praise of it. They are as pleased at the reception given to the Ameer as they were at the honours shown to the Sultan of Turkey." The writer thinks that if this kind of hospitality is shown to the public, it will be no wonder if the people feel grateful from their hearts to the Government, and that they are more delighted than if a whole pergunnah were given to them; and this feeling is not only prevalent in Hind, but throughout the world. "Now let us see what amount of gratitude and thanks the Ameer Sahib will return to the Government for this."

Under the heading "Hyderabad, Deccan," this paper contradicts the rumour to the effect that Mr. Saunders, the Resident, and Sir Salar Jung, had been imprisoned. The writer adds, "Now, by God's blessing, all is peaceful. It is said that the Mookhtear-ool-Moolk much regrets his absence from the death-bed of his master; and whenever the subject is alluded to, he feels it very much. The great sorrow is that the disease

which carried off the Nizam is not known; but when it took a serious turn, the Nizam remembered his Wuzeer, and was anxious about him;" &c., &c. The writer concludes by saying that "the death was certainly caused by some ungrateful servants; on which account Sir Salar Jung has summoned all who were present, and enquiry is being made. Let us see what truth is brought to light in this intricate case."

The *Mujm-ool Bharain* of the 8th of April, and the *Bhiddia Bilass* of the 20th of March, do not require particular attention.

The *Bhiddia Bilass*, of the 3rd of April, alludes to the death of the Nizam; and upon the authority of Mahomed Khair-ood-Deen Bhurranpoorie, who heard it from a friend, states that on the death becoming known, the Resident went to the house of the Mookhtear-ool-Moolk, and remained a short time in private conversation. "The next day, Shumsh-ool Omrao, and all the Chiefs, great and small, went to the house of the Resident, who expressed great grief, and enquired who would now occupy the Nizam's place. The Mookhtear-ool-Moolk said, 'I will do all, and let the young boy be placed on the *guddee*.' The Resident replied, 'You are an agent on the part of Government, and ought not to fill the office;' but it was settled that Shumsh-ool Omrao should be appointed, and invested with the power the Nizam possessed. In this conversation Mr. Saunders became *harfzan* (unmanned), and said that the European gentlemen ought to get seats in Durbar. The Nawab Mookhtear-ool-Moolk said that it was against the custom; but if it was the Resident's pleasure, a throne might be placed for the boy. Consent was given for seats for twenty Europeans, and all the Hindoo-stanee Chiefs also got seats allowed them. The next day the Durbar took place, and the infant son of the Nizam was placed on the throne. The Resident's first speech was one of condolence, and then he congratulated the heir."

"A correspondent at Bokhara writes that up to this Russian rule is not complete in Asia. The eldest son of the King of Bokhara has rebelled against them; and whenever he finds

opportunity he answers them with a sword; and notwithstanding all his father's reasoning he does not care. A few days ago the King wrote to the Russian General that his son would not mind him, and that he had power to do what he pleased; that he had disobeyed him, and was deserving of punishment. On this the General sent a force against the son, who fled to Subz." The writer says that he well knows the great ambition of the Russians; that "up to this they could not even rule Bokhara. Some years have passed, during which much labour has been gone through;" &c. &c. He refers to the power of the British Government, which takes any country it desires, and says that "Russia has neither that power nor the ambition to face Hindoostan; because if they have not been able to conquer Turkistan, whose inhabitants are void of sense, and without any means of defence, it cannot enter their minds to approach Hindoostan. Prior to British rule, Hindoostan was a soft and tender mouthful, but now it is not so; there is now a dread of the Government, which is as an earthquake on their senses; how can any power dare to approach this way? Besides this, the sense of justice possessed by the British Government has produced so much peace and contentment, that the people pray day and night for the welfare of that Government; and now the hope is that the people so governed will do the work of defending it when necessary."

The *Nujm-ool Ukhbar*, of the 7th of April, does not contain anything of importance.

The *Moofeed-ool Anam*, of the 8th of April, after extracts from other papers, alludes to the capture of Wahabee agents at Rajshai. "After a full investigation, they have been imprisoned at Patna by the Magistrate of that place; while Mahomed Ali, who is the chief of these people, and sides with the Akhoond, has addressed the Postmaster-General, and is that some one who, with Yar Ali, head of the Wahabees, has had this place pointed out to him as his residence after transportation, and all the Wahabees are with him." (This appears

to have been copied from some English paper, in which it probably appeared some time ago). The news-writer says that Feroze Shah has done his best to excite the "Rajghan Hind" to rebel, and wishes them to meet him at the river Oxus.

The *Meerut Gazette* of the 10th of April, the *Oordoo Delhi Gazette* of the 10th, the *Malwa Ukhbar* of the 7th, the *Allygurh Institute Gazette* of the 9th, the *Lawrence Gazette* of the 10th, the *Bhiddia Bilass* of the 27th of March, the *Rahnoomai Punjab* of the 9th of April, and the *Koh-i-Noor* of the 10th, do not require particular attention, being mostly occupied with extracts from other journals, English and Vernacular.

The *Benares Ukhbar*, of the 8th of April, opens with an account of how certain bankers, to suit their own ends, give themselves out as insolvent. The article appears to bear upon, or allude to, one Saho Dhurm Narain of Shaiwak, Nepaul, who is said to be about the wealthiest banker in the world. The writer says:—"It is a thousand pities that the master takes no notice of all the evil work of these people; as in it there is injury to Dhurm Narain, as property belonging to him worth lakhs of rupees is burnt up; but he did not think of this. On the patronage of the Government, the Maharajah Sir Jung Bahadoor, C.B., seeing his good works, gave him many lakhs of rupees, &c., &c." (the affair appears to be of no importance to Government).

The writer concludes by saying that "he has often pointed out improper conduct of various sorts in people; sometimes infants, deserted, are found, and the Hindoos especially hide these things; but in Nepaul there is strict search and enquiry in these matters, so that one's greatest friend will not conceal a fault. The Maharajah will not allow young men and women to go into other countries;" &c., &c.

It is said that in the Khundwa district, Monghyr, the Maharajah Mungul Singh has placed his eldest son on the *guddee* (throne); but superintends the work of his State as usual.

The Maharajah of a place called Chumpanuggur is said to have gone mad, and that great misrule is going on in his State—his debts amounting to some lakhs of rupees. Seeing this, the principal *Ranee* (Queen) and her son have grown discontented, and are living at Poorunnia, one mile and a half distant; and it is said that the son ought to appeal to Government against this state of misrule.

The following vernacular newspapers have been examined in this Report, viz:—

No.	NAME OF PAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.		WHEN RECEIVED.	
			1869.		1869.	
1	<i>Oudh Ukhbar,</i>	... Lucknow, ...	March	30th	April	7th
2	<i>Julwatore,</i>	... Meerut, ...	April	4th	"	7th
3	<i>Muir Gazette,</i>	... Ditto, ...	"	4th	"	7th
4	<i>Gwalior Gazette,</i>	... Gwalior, ...	March	28th	"	8th
5	<i>Mujm-ool Bharain,</i>	... Loodiana, ...	April	1st	"	6th
6	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab,</i>	... Sealkote, ...	"	2nd	"	8th
7	<i>Unjumun Hind,</i>	... Lucknow, ...	"	3rd	"	8th
8	<i>Malwa Ukhbar,</i>	... Indore, ...	March	31st	"	9th
9	<i>Karnama Hind,</i>	... Lucknow, ...	April	5th	"	9th
10	<i>Sholatore,</i>	... Cawnpoor, ...	"	6th	"	9th
11	<i>Ukmil-ool Ukhbar,</i>	... Delhi, ...	"	7th	"	9th
12	<i>Sadiq-ool Ukhbar,</i>	... Bhawulpoor, ...	"	3rd	"	10th
13	<i>Rohilkhund Ukhbar,</i>	... Moradabad, ...	"	3rd	"	10th
14	<i>Nusseem Jounpoor,</i>	... Jounpoor, ...	"	6th	"	10th
15	<i>Zea-ool Ukhbar,</i>	... Delhi, ...	"	1st	"	11th
16	<i>Oudh Ukhbar,</i>	... Lucknow, ...	"	6th	"	11th
17	<i>Mujm-ool Bharain,</i>	... Loodiana, ...	"	8th	"	11th
18	<i>Bhiddia Bilass,</i>	... Jummoo, ...	March	20th	"	12th
19	<i>Ditto,</i>	... Ditto, ...	April	3rd	"	12th
20	<i>Nujm-ool Ukhbar,</i>	... Meerut, ...	"	7th	"	12th
21	<i>Moofeed-ool Anam,</i>	... Futtehgurh, ...	"	8th	"	12th
22	<i>Meerut Gazette,</i>	... Meerut, ...	"	10th	"	12th
23	<i>Oordoo Delhi Gazette,</i>	... Agra, ...	"	10th	"	12th
24	<i>Malwa Ukhbar,</i>	... Indore, ...	"	7th	"	13th
25	<i>Allygurh Institute Gazette,</i>	... Allygurh, ...	"	9th	"	13th
26	<i>Lawrence Gazette,</i>	... Meerut, ...	"	10th	"	13th
27	<i>Bhiddia Bilass,</i>	... Jummoo, ...	March	27th	"	14th
28	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab,</i>	... Sealkote, ...	April	9th	"	14th
29	<i>Koh-i-Noor,</i>	... Lahore, ...	"	10th	"	14th
30	<i>Benares Ukhbar (Nagree),</i>	... Benares, ...	"	8th	"	11th

No copy of the *Murdhurmint* was received for this report.

(True translation.)

GEORGE WAGENTREIBER,

Government Reporter on the Vernacular Press,

Upper India.

DELHI :

The 24th April, 1869. }

